Message Text

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E.O. 11652 N/A TAGS: ETRD, EEC, GW, SHUM SUBJECT: EC/ACP NEGOTIATIONS

REF: BRUSSELS 14416

- 1. SINCE THE OPENING OF LOME II, ECONOMIC COOPERATION MINISTER OFFERGELD AND DR. UWE HOLTZ (SPD CHAIRMAN OF THE BUNDESTAG COMMITTEE FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION) HAVE ISSUED STATEMENTS AND GIVEN INTERVIEWS WHICH GO INTO MORE DETAIL THAN FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S OPENING STATEMENT (REFTEL) ABOUT FRG EXPECTATIONS FOR THE EC/ACP NEGOTIATIONS. HIGHLIGHTS OF THESE ARE REPORTED BELOW.
- 2. HUMAN RIGHTS CLAUSE: REPLYING TO A QUESTION ABOUT THE INCLUSION OF A HUMAN RIGHTS CLAUSE, MINISTER OFFER-GELD STATED, "IT IS TRUE THAT THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION WITHIN THE EC ON THE ONE HAND, AND OF COURSE BETWEEN THE EC AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON THE UNCLASSIFIED

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OTHER. THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IS AN EXTREMELY DELICATE ONE... THE FRG TENDS, AND I TEND, TO BE SOMEWHAT RESERVED ON THIS QUESTION. WHEN VIOLATIONS OF SOME SORT OR OTHER OF STANDARDS ARE MET BY AUTOMATIC SANCTIONS IT CAN LEAD TO NEGATIVE RESULTS, SUCH AS THE SEVERING OF RELATIONS WITH A DEVELOPING COUNTRY SO THAT IT WOULD NOT

BE POSSIBLE TO EXERCISE ANY INFLUENCE AT ALL IN THE COUNTRY CONCERNED. THEREFORE THE FRG IS ARGUING FOR A VERY, VERY CAUTIOUS ADVANCE IN THIS AREA... THIS DOES NOT MEAN A RENUNCIATION OF A REFERENCE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. IT IS A RENUNCIATION OF THE AUTOMATIC SANCTION MECHANISM." OFFERGELD GOES ON TO STATE THAT HE AND GENSCHER ARE IN FULL AGREEMENT ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT THE MINOR DIFFERENCES OF OPINION WITHIN THE EC HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF BEING RESOLVED.

- 3. STABEX: BOTH OFFERGELD AND HOLTZ SEE THE BROADENING OF STABEX AS AN IMPORTANT AREA FOR IMPROVEMENT. OFFERGELD SUGGESTS THAT THE PROGRAM BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE COPPER, THOUGH HE IS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT FURTHER AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES. (HOLTZ INCLUDES PHOSPHATE AS A POSSIBILITY.) HOLTZ EXPECTS TWO THINGS OF THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT: THAT STABEX WILL BE EXTENDED AND THAT CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE INCREASED. SO FAR ONLY DM 1 BILLION OF THE ENVISAGED DM 10 BILLION HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE.
- 4. INDUSTRIALIZATION AND TRADE: IN SPITE OF ACP OBJECTIONS TO A CONSULTATION MECHANISM, HOLTZ SEES THE IDEA AS USEFUL FOR SUCH PRODUCTS AS TEXTILES AND PETROLEUM. THE MECHANISM WOULD BE A DEFENSE AGAINST UNWANTED IMPORTS INTO THE EC AS WELL AS FUNCTIONING AS UNCLASSIFIED

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AN ADVISORY SYSTEM FOR THE ACP COUNTRIES ON MARKET POSSIBILITIES. MEEHAN

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